

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR DON KNABE

March 17, 2009

On March 3, 2009, this Board directed the CEO to create a plan to develop employment opportunities for up to 10,000 County residents, in anticipation that we will receive both our fair share of the federal Emergency Temporary Aid to Needy Families (TANF) Contingency Fund and additional Workforce Investment Act dollars. Potentially, this funding could provide up to \$130 million for this purpose, which would provide unemployed CalWORKs participants, former foster youth, and other at-risk populations with jobs.

This effort represents a truly compelling, unprecedented opportunity for collaboration between the County and the Workforce Investment Boards across the region, and we are aligning our resources to be able to take full advantage of this. The funding has a required 20% local match, which the County is willing to come up with, given the tremendous opportunity this presents to make a positive impact in our communities. Unfortunately, wide parameters in the federal bill language that created the TANF Contingency Fund and the economic stimulus package overall could allow the State to utilize any or all of these dollars to backfill and address their self-created budget crisis before Los Angeles County or any other local jurisdiction would see even a dime. This is completely unacceptable.

- M O R E -

MOTION

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RIDLEY-THOMAS \_\_\_\_\_

YAROSLAVSKY \_\_\_\_\_

ANTONOVICH \_\_\_\_\_

KNABE \_\_\_\_\_

This federal funding is intended to stimulate the economy, and job development on the local level speaks far more to economic stimulus than plugging holes in the State budget. The plan the CEO is developing is by far the most appropriate use of these dollars. Policymakers at the State level should be emphatically encouraged to resist their historic tendency to put themselves first, and join us in our efforts to put people to work.

**I, THEREFORE, MOVE** that the Board of Supervisors send a five signature letter to the Governor and the Los Angeles County delegation, strongly urging them to protect and preserve the County's expected share of the Emergency TANF Contingency Fund, which could create up to 10,000 jobs for County residents, and instruct our advocates in Sacramento to actively pursue this position.

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